

"LIFE IS FULL OF PLOTS," SAYS THE PLAYWRIGHT

David Belasco Tells How the "Three Ps" Win Success in New York Returns to Scene of Birth and Holds a Big Family Reunion Master of Stagecraft Delights Aged Father by Buying Play From Him

By Arthur L. Price

David Belasco was yesterday the eldest of nine children. He was still a conspicuous dramatic author, the most consummate master of stagecraft in America, the proprietor of two notable theaters in New York and one in Washington, the manager of a constellation of stars, and, withal, the most clerical looking individual who ever entered a theater; but the glory of the world was shunted at the Oakland mole early yesterday morning, and Belasco spent the day in the center of his immediate family. He was with his father, Abraham Belasco; his sisters, Mrs. Sarah Mayer, one of the owners of the Alcazar theater, and Mrs. Hannah Heringh, and his brothers, Fred Belasco, the other partner in the Alcazar; Walter Belasco, the popular actor at that theater; Edward Belasco, treasurer of the theater; Henry B. Belasco, superintendent of the Alcazar building, and Solie Belasco and Isa Belasco, the only sons of the house who are not in some way connected with dramatic entertainment.

FAMILY REUNION IS HELD At the home, 1704 Sutter street, which Mrs. Mayer shares with her father, David Belasco spent the afternoon, greeting relatives and kin as they came in and devoting most of his time to his father, whom he had not seen for 13 years. It was a family reunion with a parent and nine children to give it force and effect—a larger family than Belasco ever dramatized. Belasco's arrival in the city of his birth after an absence of 13 years was made at an 11 hour. The adroit stage manager did not approach San Francisco so propitiously as he could have effected an entrance for a star of his creation. But this defect must not be laid against the dramatist. The stage director of the greatest railroad drama in the country, E. H. Harriman and his Southern Pacific road managers were the only persons this side of eternity who may be blamed for the fact that the train bearing Belasco arrived at 4 o'clock in the morning.

Belasco was accompanied west by Acton Davis, dramatic critic of the New York Evening Sun, who is considered one of the two or three best informed men on the drama in the United States. "It is too long a journey to come home," said Belasco. TRIUMPHANT RETURN Fred Belasco went to Sacramento to greet his brother, and dramatic writers of the local press also went over the road and returned to the city with the genius of the stage. To that extent it was a triumphant return to the city of his nativity.

Immediately upon reaching San Francisco, Belasco and his brother drove to the home in Sutter street, where the aged father was waiting up to welcome the son he had not seen for a baker's dozen of years. After affectionate greetings had been exchanged, David Belasco went to the St. Francis, where he and Davies registered. David Belasco was up at 11 o'clock and went to the Sutter street home again, where he stayed during the afternoon. He will be in San Francisco for two weeks. A severe hoarseness kept him indoors yesterday, but he hopes to be able to revisit parts of the city he knew of old and hunt up old friends soon.

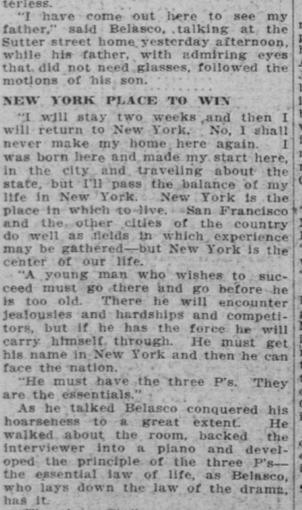
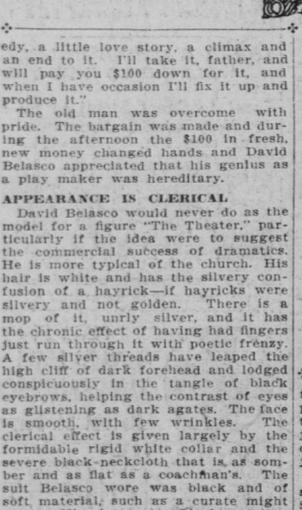
Belasco said he came west to see his father and relatives and not with the act rather before the latter statement, for before Belasco had been in San Francisco 12 hours he purchased a play outright and made a first payment of \$100 in cash to the successful author. BUYS PLAY FROM FATHER What Belasco discovered when he reached the city was that he had a play right in his family. It was a great surprise to him.

He reached the Mayer house at 11 o'clock, and as soon as his father, Abraham Belasco, had exchanged greetings with him the old gentleman said: "If you like it I'd like to sell it to you." "Father, let me hear it," exclaimed the producer of the big theatrical successes of New York. Belasco senior went off to his treasure box and returned with a five act drama. The entire family gathered around and listened with the utmost attention while the old father read from his manuscript. "I'll take it, father," declared David. "It is a good play. It has pathos, com-

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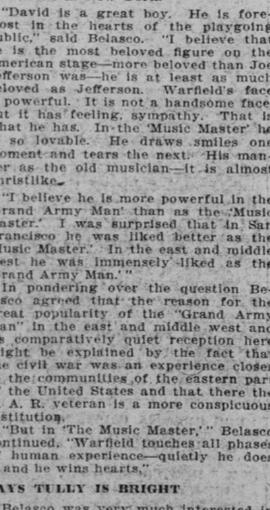
David Belasco Visits the City After An Absence of Thirteen Years

David Belasco talking with his father on his arrival home in San Francisco yesterday, and three portraits of the famous master of stage craft taken yesterday afternoon by a Call photographer.

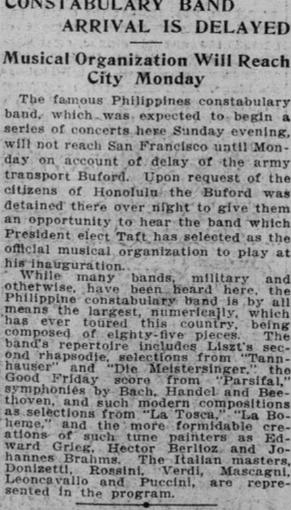
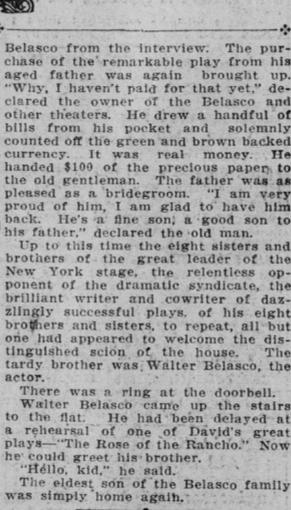


Some Belascoisms

"New York is the place in which to live. San Francisco and other cities do well as fields in which experience may be gathered, but New York is the center of our life." "A young man who would succeed must go to New York before he is too old. He must get his name in New York—then he may face the nation." "The young man, to win, must have the three P's—Pluck, Perseverance and Patience." "I read the newspapers and every day I find three or four plots for a drama in their columns." "I am always ready to read manuscripts that are submitted to me."



Belasco from the interview. The purchase of the remarkable play from his aged father was again brought up. "Why, I haven't paid for that yet," declared the owner of the Belasco and other theaters. He drew a handful of bills from his pocket and solemnly counted off the green and brown backed currency. It was real money. He handed \$100 of the precious paper to the old gentleman. The father was as pleased as a bridegroom. "I am very proud of him, I am glad to have him back. He's a fine son, a good son to his father," declared the old man. Up to this time the eight sisters and brothers of the great leader of the New York stage, the relentless opponent of the dramatic syndicate, the brilliant writer and cowriter of dazlingly successful plays, of his eight brothers and sisters, to repeat, all but one had appeared to welcome the distinguished scion of the house. The tardy brother was Walter Belasco, the actor.



There was a ring at the doorbell. "Enter Belasco," called the stairs to the flat. He had been delayed at a rehearsal of one of David's great plays—"The Rose of the Rancho." Now he could greet his brother. "Hello, kid," he said. The eldest son of the Belasco family was simply home again. CONSTABULARY BAND ARRIVAL IS DELAYED Musical Organization Will Reach City Monday The famous Philippine constabulary band, which was expected to begin a series of concerts here Sunday evening, will not reach San Francisco until Monday on account of delay of the army transport Buford. Upon request of the citizens of Honolulu the Buford was detained there over night to give them an opportunity to hear the band which President Taft has selected as the official musical organization to play at his inauguration.

SUSPECT ARRESTED AS GIRL'S ASSAILANT

Clever Ruse Results in Capture of Giuseppe Pia by the Police Yesterday

Pia Said to Have Confessed to Atrocious Assault on Elizabeth Grapes

SAN RAFAEL, Feb. 12.—It became known today that the arrest of John Mills, the negro, yesterday on a charge of having committed the brutal assault on Elizabeth Grapes, a young girl, in Fifth street last Saturday night was but a ruse to aid in the ensnaring of Giuseppe Pia, an Italian, who is strongly suspected by the authorities of being the real culprit. Mills was released today and the affair explained to him after Pia had been landed in jail under strong guard.

District Attorney Boyd was told two days ago that Pia might be the man wanted, but the Italian had left town, so Mills was arrested and the news of his incarceration told in the newspapers so that Pia, if guilty, would feel secure in returning. He did so today and was arrested immediately. Miss Grapes, who is at her home recovering from the assault made upon her, in which she was left nude to wander the streets, after having been dragged to a vacant lot, will confront Pia tomorrow. The Italian answers in many features to the description of her assailant given by the girl.

Pia's statements made today after his arrest completely carry out the story told by John Zaro, who was suspected of having committed the crime. Zaro was found with his face badly scratched and lacerated Sunday, and was arrested on suspicion and questioned. He declared that he had been set upon and beaten by some unknown assailant Saturday night while returning from work at the residence of Louis Sloss, where he is employed as a gardener. Pia today admitted that he had beaten Zaro on the night in question. He states that he had had the position now held by Zaro until three months ago and wished to be revenged upon Zaro for having secured the job.

TAKEN UNCONSCIOUS FROM LODGING HOUSE

Woman Held in Prison Pending Investigation

Mystery surrounds the sudden illness of Jacob Kocedros, a tailor living at 606 Castro street, who was taken unconscious from a Commercial street lodging house yesterday afternoon.

PAPYRUS CLUB HEARS SOLILOQUIES OF HAMLET

Shakespeare Class Organized and Bard Discussed Papyrus club members resolved themselves into a Shakespeare class yesterday afternoon at their regular meeting, with Mrs. Florence Philbrook, the Shakespearean student and reader, the soliloquies of Hamlet to read and the different meanings of words in Shakespeare's time and the present were contrasted by Mrs. A. W. Cornwall, Mrs. E. H. Poisson, Mrs. Remington, Mrs. S. Leake, Mrs. Stallman and Mrs. Pistolesi. There was a musical program as well. Mrs. Lee Less and Mrs. V. S. Walsh sang and Mrs. Charles Stallman played a piano solo.

Spring Millinery A line of Stylish Black Turbans at \$3.50 and \$4.75 each

Some of them are the new spangle effects which are popular now; others are in straw and mohair braids. The crowns are of various shapes and very large. Our line of turbans for spring wear is attractive. See these hats today in our millinery department on third floor.

New Veils for Spring Wear A good line of the newest shades and combinations, including many novelties.

Novelty Square Veils Russian mesh squares, with chiffon cloth lining and wide, hemstitched satin border; in the new shades and color effects; at \$4.00 and \$4.50 each. Mesh Veiling at 25c, 50c and 75c yard

Good Gloves for Spring Good, serviceable gloves are the only kind that you will find at Hale's.

From our choice new line you can get gloves in shades to match new spring dresses and suits. At \$1.50 Pair—Women's 2 Clasp Pique Mocha Walking Gloves—in gray or black. Also 1 Clasp P. X. M. Mocha Walking Gloves; in gray only. At \$2.00 Pair—Women's 2 Clasp Dent Gloves—One of the most stylish and serviceable styles; in good shades of tan, also black and white. At \$1.00 Pair—Women's 1 Clasp P. X. M. Cape gloves—Excellent for outdoor wear; in tan, taupe or white. At \$1.00 Pair—Women's 1 Clasp Pique Mocha Gloves—in gray or black. At \$1.00 Pair—Women's 1 Clasp Cape Gloves—For good rough wear; in best shades of tan. At \$1.00 Pair—Boys' 1 Clasp Cape Gloves—in shades of tan; sizes 0890 to 7.

Good Trunk for \$6.25 Covered with canvas; flat top; heavy iron bumper; varnished hardwood cleats; strong straps; inside tray, with covered hat box; 32 inches long, at \$6.25; 34 inches long, at \$6.95.

Today Is the Last Day of Hale's February Exposition of White Goods 979 to 987 Market—25 to 33 Sixth

RIDGE ROAD CLUB FEASTS AT BANQUET IN FAIRMONT

Many New Members Inducted Into the U. C. Society The members of the Ridge Road club of the University of California, as Omega chapter of Phi Sigma Kappa, introduced into its body last night at a banquet given at the Fairmont a number of students ranging from the classes of '02 to '12. W. A. McIntyre and John A. Boehm acted as officers of the induction ceremonies. Among those to enter were:

- '02—Lewis Irwin Reed, '03—Ralph Stephenson Hawley, '04—Cleland Waterman Robber, Edward Lee Sone, '05—Fred John Gogle, Walter Leroy Huber, '06—Edward Kellogg Strong Jr., Frank Elliott Collier, John Cecil Black, Lawrence Bufford, Reuben O. Meyer, Ralph Benton, '07—Kent Allen Hawley, '08—Ronald Joseph Smith, '09—Earle Smith, Herbert Roy Crane, Charles R. E. Douglas, Clayton Richard Shipway, David William Christen, Warren Kenyon Hilliard, Robert Gordon Robson, Thomas Rogers Thomson, Gordon Butcher Todd, '10—Addison Graves Strong, Samuel Porter Colt Jr., Lester Green Volcott, Francis Robert Steel, George Graham Steel, Oswald Hope Robertson, Stephen Carson, Ernest H. Huber, '11—Bradley Revere Metcalf, Richmond Wozart Strong, Herbert Charles Kelly, Earl Vivian Willmar, Daniel Joseph Flaugh, Seal P. Loumsing, '12—Clinton William Evans, John A. Hendricks, Fred A. Armstrong, James Fred Pollard, Claude C. Brown, Beverly Stuart Cleeland, Elton Ralph Charoz.

MINE EMPLOYEES SEND MONEY TO SUFFERERS

Amount From Weaverville Goes to Red Cross Work Employees of the La Grange mining company, Weaverville, sent to the Call yesterday a check for \$31 to be turned over to the local Red Cross authorities for the benefit of the Italian earthquake sufferers. The amount was forwarded to Treasurer Allan Knight. The contributors were: P. Boutry, W. Condon, Carl Christianson, E. M. Goodyear, George Watkins, A. Gates, E. A. Newell, Paul Gein, D. Lane and P. Jensen.

CHARGED WITH FORGERY—Harry James, collector for J. C. Westberry of the Winosever Will mission, was looked at the city prison yesterday on a charge of forgery. He was sent to Oakland Wednesday with two checks, each for \$15, payable to Harold Everhart of Everhart & Gordon, accountants. He forged Everhart's name to one of the checks and passed it. The other check was found in his pocket.

Hairless Heads

Are not only unsightly, but lead to neuralgia, catarrh and kindred complaints through exposure.



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Will find our perfect fitting toupees give a sense of comfort and an appearance of youth and strength. Strozynski toupees are made of finest hair by the most expert artists—are perfect in fit and shade and conform to facial characteristics.

Try S. S. Dandruff Hair Tonic, an infallible cure for disease of the scalp. Sent anywhere upon receipt of \$1.00.

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Sickness of every description successfully treated with Tea and Herbs by Dr. Chou-Jern, the famous Chinese physician, whose credentials are attested by the Chinese Ambassador at Washington, D. C., San Francisco office, 705 City St.—Mon., Tues., Wed. and Thurs. Stockton office, 123 North Hunter St.—Fri., Sat. and Sun. My special preparations are Cough Ginger, Tea and Herbs for Colds and Optimum Abstainer's Food.



For Your Best Girl

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- Antique Serebend, 15:2x6:1, from \$250.00 to 165.00
- Kirmanshah, 6:4x4:1, from \$110.00 to 80.00
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- Kurdistan, 10:6x3:5, from \$50.00 to 35.00
- Bokhara, 6:7x4:11, from \$60.00 to 45.00
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